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U.S. Patent and Trademark Office

Fax Number: 571-273-8300

Date: July 12, 2006

Phone Number: 571-272-4000

Total Pages (including cover): 10

FROM

Name: Elisabeth Jaffe Barek

Phone Number: 650-849-6611

Verified by: smb

MESSAGE

In re Application of:

MITSUHASHI et al.

Application No.: 10/519,212

371(c) Date: December 27, 2004

International Filing Date: June 27, 2003

For: METHOD FOR PRODUCING
LACTONE

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) Group Art Unit: 1651
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) Examiner: Herbert J. LILLING
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) Confirmation No.: 7322
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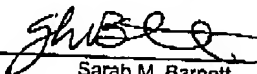
Applicants enclose the following document for filing in the above-referenced application:

- 1) Response After Final (9 pages).

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Sarah M. Barnett

**RESPONSE UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.116
EXPEDITED PROCEDURE REQUESTED**

PATENT
Customer No. 22,852
Attorney Docket No. 04853.0121-00000

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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Sir:

RESPONSE AFTER FINAL

Applicants now respond to the Final Office Action mailed May 8, 2006. Applicants respectfully request entry of the following amendments. Applicants also respectfully request reconsideration and withdrawal of all outstanding rejections.

Amendments to the claims begin on page 2.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 8.